



Division of Principals and Assistant Principals
5625 Dillard Drive
Cary, NC 27518

The Hon. Roy Cooper, Governor of North Carolina
Members of the North Carolina General Assembly

August 26, 2019

Dear Gov. Cooper and Members of the General Assembly:

Today more than 160,000 students filled schools in Wake County alone. Each of our students and their families hold high expectations for what the new academic year will bring. They were eagerly greeted by highly trained, educated and dedicated professional and support staff. However, unanswered budget questions create uncertainty for staff as they welcomed their students today.

Questions linger around promised but unfunded pay increases for support staff. Professional staff have earned their promised step increases in their salary schedule upon beginning the new year. But those steps remain unfunded and a promise remains unfulfilled.

Much-needed additional mental health staff and school resource officer positions remain vacant leaving our students vulnerable. Without a ratified state budget, our students have started school without some very important items on their school supply lists — resources, support, and safety.

On behalf of the association that represents principals and assistant principals in the Wake County Public School System, our state's largest district, we respectfully ask that you pass a biennial budget that meets the needs of our school children and fulfills your promises to the adults charged with their education before another instructional day passes. There is no better time to prove your commitment to our future.

As school administrators we are charged with solving problems through compromise, creative solutions, and dogged determination to serve our students. We ask that as our governing leaders you work to do what it takes to find a solution to this budget impasse.

Submitted respectfully,

Ms. Teresa Caswell
President, WCDPAP

Mr. Scott Lassiter
Legislative Chair, WCDPAP

CC: WCPSS Board of Education/Superintendent

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